

# **Washington State Board of Health Immunization Advisory Committee**

## **Conflict of Interest Policy**

In order for the Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) to pursue its mission and to maintain its reputation with the public and health care providers, it is important that the decisions and actions of the Immunization Advisory Committee not be unduly influenced by the special interests of individual members. Accordingly, SBOH has adopted the following Conflict of Interest Policy:

Decisions made by Immunization Advisory Committee members should always be based solely on the best interest of SBOH and the people of Washington State. Decisions should not be influenced by personal financial interest or by other extraneous considerations. Any affiliation with an organization having fundamental goals that conflict with SBOH and the Immunization Advisory Committee mission should be avoided. Any current, previous (within 2 years), or future potential conflict of interest should be disclosed at the beginning of each advisory committee meeting.

A potential conflict of interest exists when a committee member has a relationship or engages in any activity, or has any personal financial interest which might impair his/her independence or judgment or inappropriately influence his/her decisions or actions concerning advisory committee matters.

A potential conflict of interest exists and should be disclosed if the committee member:

- Owns a material financial interest (5 percent or more) in any business that provides or seeks to provide goods or services to SBOH.
- Serves as an officer or participates on the board or committees of other related professional societies that benefit financially from the sale of vaccines.
- Has an affiliation with an organization that has a financial interest in Immunization Advisory Committee recommendations.
- Has an affiliation with an organization that has a competing activity.

Each committee member has a high duty and obligation to disclose to the entire committee any potential conflict of interest and to abstain from any decision where a significant conflict of interest exists. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the entire committee to determine what, if any, limitations on activities with regard to the committee member's conflict are required to protect the Immunization Advisory Committee.